

# LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIVISION

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Legislative Audit Committee  
of the Montana State Legislature:

We have audited the basic financial statements of the state of Montana as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated November 28, 2003. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the state of Montana's basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance, which we have reported to the management of the state of Montana during the course of our audit work.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the state of Montana's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the basic financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted

other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting, which we have reported to the management of the state of Montana during the course of our audit work.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Audit Committee, state of Montana management, the Montana State Legislature, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Respectfully submitted,

*(Signature on File)*

James Gillett, CPA  
Deputy Legislative Auditor

November 28, 2003